CLAIMS

1. A computer-implemented method for providing differentiated quality of service in an application server, comprising:

5   receiving a request;

providing pre-determined policy data;

establishing a quality of service context based on said request and said policy data; and

propagating said quality of service context with said request.

10   2. The method of claim 1 wherein said request includes at least one of user identity, current user role, requested service, and time constraint.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said quality of service context includes at least one of service class, priority, and deadline.

15

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said establishing a quality of service context is completed at an ingress point.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said ingress point is at least one of a web server plug-in within a web server client and a protocol manager service within said application server.

20

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising, propagating said quality of service context with a subsequent request related to said request.

25   7. The method of claim 1 wherein said propagating includes inserting said quality of service context adjacent to at least one of a security and transaction context.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein a load balancing service dispatches said request

including said quality of service context, to an application server in a plurality of application servers, based on said quality of service context.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein a request manager service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to a component in a plurality of components, based on said quality of service context.

10. A computer-readable medium comprising program instructions executable to:

receive a request;

provide pre-determined policy data;

establish a quality of service context based on said request and said policy data; and

propagate said quality of service context with said request.

11. The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein said request includes at least one of user identity, current user role, requested service, and time constraint.

12. The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein said quality of service context includes at least one of service class, priority, and deadline.

13. The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein said establishing a quality of service context is completed at an ingress point.

14. The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein said ingress point is at least one of a web server plug-in within a web server client and a protocol manager service within said application server.

15. The computer-readable medium of claim 10, further comprising program instructions executable to: propagate said quality of service context with a subsequent request related to said

request.

16. The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein said propagating includes inserting said quality of service context adjacent to at least one of a security and transaction

5   context.

17. The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein a load balancing service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to an application server in a plurality of application servers, based on said quality of service context.

10

18. The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein a request manager service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to a component in a plurality of components, based on said quality of service context.

15   19. A first computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory storing program instructions;

wherein the processor is operable to execute the program instructions to:

receive a request;

20   provide pre-determined policy data;

establish a quality of service context based on said request and said policy data; and

propagate said quality of service context with said request.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein said request includes at least one of user identity,

25   current user role, requested service, and time constraint.

21. The system of claim 19, wherein said quality of service context includes at least one of service class, priority, and deadline.

22 The system of claim 19, wherein said establishing a quality of service context is completed at an ingress point.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein said ingress point is at least one of a web server plug-in within a web server client and a protocol manager service within said application server.

24. The system of claim 19, further comprising program instructions to: propagate said quality of service context with a subsequent request related to said request.

25. The system of claim 19, wherein said propagating includes inserting said quality of service context adjacent to at least one of a security and transaction context.

26. The system of claim 19, wherein a load balancing service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to an application server in a plurality of application servers, based on said quality of service context.

27. The system of claim 19, wherein a request manager service dispatches said request including said quality of service context, to a component in a plurality of components, based on said quality of service context.